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November 9, 1994

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM CONFIDENTIAL

TO:

Ambassador Albright

THROUGH: Ambassador Gnehm

FROM:

Ambassador Inderfurth

Ambassador Marrero

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with UN High Commissioner for

Refugees, Mrs. Sadako Ogata, Thursday, November

10, at 3 PM in Your Office in Your Capacity as

U.S. Permanent Representative

OBJECTIVES

Support UNHCR's proposed "security service package" (i.e. a multinational police force to train and operate with the Zairian police), but raise our concerns about Security Council linkage.

Request an update from Ogata on: a) her assessment of DHA's performance as coordinator of UN relief efforts for internally displaced persons in Rwanda; and b) efforts to improve the integrity of food distribution in refugee camps.

-- Thank Mrs. Ogata for UNHCR's continuing cooperation on Haiti and Cuba.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS OGATA MAY RAISE

-- Ogata may wish to discuss: a) Bosnia, b) Burundi, c) initiatives for your presidency of the Security Council.

Attachments:

Talking Points Rwanda Background

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: THEODORE SELLIN DATE/CASE ID: 11 OCT 2002 200000294

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TALKING POINTS

RELEASED IN FULE 23

RWANDA:

Refugee Camp Security and Repatriation

- -- Let me commend you on UNHCR's outstanding work in the Rwanda refugee camps. We all recognize that the security situation in the camps is dire -- your efforts to find a solution are admirable.
- -- My government supports your security service package for Zaire as a short-term practical step.
- -- We are in the process of releasing an additional \$16M to UNHCR for the Rwanda refugees. You might consider putting it toward your security package.
- -- You spoke with Undersecretary Wirth about using private contractors to expedite the deployment of police trainers to Zaire. Have you looked into this possibility further?
- -- Does UNHCR have the funds to cover contract guards?
- -- Will you seek Security Council endorsement for the proposal?
- -- What kind of feedback have you received from the SYG? I understand that in Geneva he said he was opposed.
- -- We have worked closely with DPKO on developing a viable peacekeeping operation for the camps in Zaire.
- -- We plan on supporting an operation in the Council if the necessary troops can be found.

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Operation of DHA's UN Rwanda Emergency Office

- I understand that UN agencies and DHA agreed recently that no one UN agency would take on comprehensive responsibility for internally displaced persons (IDP) in Rwanda, but rather all agencies would contribute to assistance for IDPs and DHA would coordinate the overall effort.
- -- What is your assessment of DHA's performance as coordinator of UN relief efforts for internally displaced persons in Rwanda? Are the needs of the IDPs being met adequately?

Food distribution in Refugee Camps

- -- We are concerned about reports that a large portion of the humanitarian assistance meant for Rwandan refugees is being siphoned off by middlemen.
- -- How does the rate of leakage of humanitarian assistance away from refugees and towards middlemen in the Rwandan camps compare with UNHCR's experience in other countries?
- -- What measures is UNHCR taking to improve the distribution of humanitarian supplies?

HAITI AND CUBA:

- I would like to thank you for the excellent, ongoing, and close cooperation between UNHCR and my government regarding Haitian and Cuban migrants. Your special envoy, Kofi Asomani, has been particularly helpful.
- UNHCR's participation in all safe havens is crucial to ensure the integrity of our treatment of migrants, including camp conditions, and the voluntariness in repatriation of Haitians and Cubans.
- -- More than 8,200 Haitians have been repatriated since the U.S. intervention in Haiti began on September 19. As of November 9, 5,990 Haitians remained at Guantanamo Naval Base.
- -- As of November 9, there are a total of 31,735 Cuban refugees: 23,062 at Guantanamo Naval Base and another 8,673 in Panama.
- -- Repatriation efforts of Cubans and Haitians have stopped in response to a temporary restraining order that went into effect on October 24.
- Once we are able to begin voluntary repatriation for Cubans and resume repatriation of Haitians, we will rely on UNHCR participation.

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BOSNIA:

- -- The State Department alone gave over \$76 million for former Yugoslavia over FY 1994, \$50 million of which went to UNHCR. We expect a similar budget for 1995.
- -- The whole USG, including in-kind contributions, gave \$365.5 million to the former Yugoslavia in FY 1994.
- -- We are concerned about plans for winterization in Bosnia, particularly with respect to internally displaced persons and the over 20,000 refugees who fled fighting in the Bihac pocket. How are winterization efforts proceeding?
- -- How do you view the viability of Sarajevo and the eastern enclaves in terms of their ability to maintain sufficient food and fuel for the winter?

BURUNDI:

- -- My government shares your concern about the potential for ethnic conflict spreading in Burundi.
- -- The USG has provided over \$60 million in humanitarian assistance to Burundi since violence erupted there last October and we are providing \$300,000 to support the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights comprehensive plan for Human Rights Advisory Services in Burundi.
- -- As you know my government endorsed the GA Resolution on Burundi calling for the convening of a regional conference to address the problems of the sub-region including refugees.
- Is UNHCR involved in the planning for this conference, and which other UN agencies are participating in the planning?
- -- The Secretary-General is preparing a report which we believe will contain recommendations for a regional conference covering a broader range of issues. Do you foresee one conference, in which the matter of refugees would be one part of a larger agenda, or two separate conferences -- one mandated by the OAU and one by the Security Council? (If asked -- my government's preference would be for one comprehensive conference.)

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